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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

n re application of

Docket No: Q61602

Shigeo MURASE

Appln. No.: 09/772,980

Group Art Unit: 2161

Confirmation No.: 2642

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: January 31, 2001

For:

AUTOMATED BILLING TYPE INFORMATION PROVIDING SYSTEM

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

OCT 2 9 2002

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Technology Center 2100

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date for an application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA) under §1.53(d); (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

U.S. Appln. No.: 09/772,980

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for

foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from a

foreign patent office in a counterpart application citing such documents, together with an

English-language version (if not already included) of that portion of the Communication

indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such

document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not

waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any

listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

Registration No. 21,092

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Date: October 28, 2002

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PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified)

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE TRADEMS STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

.1					
Complete if Known					
Application Number	09/772,980				
Confirmation Number	2642				
Filing Date	January 31, 2001				
First Named Inventor	Shigeo MURASE				
Art Unit	2161				
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned				
Attorney Docket Number	Q61602				

			U.S. I	PATENT DOCUME	ENTS
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Document	Number	Publication Date	
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date	Name of Patentee or	
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		.DE	195 35 378	A1	3/27/97		No
		DE	198 47 686	A1	3/23/00		. No
		WO	99/51038		10/7/99		Yes
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OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
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Examiner Signature	Date Considered		•
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^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.